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1. 1. What is the title of your idea?

Coordination of Regional Federal Programs Assistance to Regional Ocean Partnership Implementation of Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning.

1. 2. Primary Contact:

Name: - Tom Ford

Company: - Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Address: - 1 LMU Drive

Address 2: - North Hall, MS: 8160

City/Town: - Los Angeles

State: - CA

ZIP: - 90045

Email Address: - tford@santamonibabay.org

Phone Number: - 310-738-6915

2. 3. Lead implementer: (name, organization)

Name: - Dr. Shelley Luce

Company: - Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Address: - 1 LMU Drive

Address 2: - North Hall, MS: 8160

City/Town: - Los Angeles

State: - CA

ZIP: - 90045

Email Address: - sluce@santamonibabay.org

Phone Number: - 310-216-9827

1. 4. Provide a brief summary of your proposal (500 words or less):

Assess existing resources that regional federal programs on the west coast (i.e., National Estuary Programs (NEP), National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS), and National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) have to assist the west coast regional ocean partnership with Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (CMSP). This project could occur in 4 phases. The first phase would assess the existing resources of the six west coast NEPs and five NERRSs by analyzing their management plans and monitoring reports. The second phase will determine future needs and direction with an emphasis on areas of commonality. The third phase will expand this effort to include the five NMSs. The fourth phase will determine the need and seek support of these entities to contribute to CMSP in a coordinated region wide effort.

2. 5. Estimated funding needed: (Year 1 and Year 2) Please enter numbers only - no dollar signs or punctuation (e.g. commas)

Year 1 - 100000

Year 2 - 175000

3. 6. What goals and objectives would your idea advance? (Provide up to 5 goals/objectives.)

#1 - Advance CMSP capacity on the west coast through a regional wide planning process.

#2 - Project outcomes demonstrate utility for west coast decision makers.

#3 - Project engages multiple stakeholders to define problems, incorporate scientific, social, and economic understanding, set goals, and find solutions.

#4 - Broadly engages the partners, the public, and stakeholders.

#5 - Builds upon existing marine spatial planning efforts at all scales.

4. 7. How do your goals and objectives relate to WCGA priorities and/or coastal and marine spatial planning? (Note: Later in this online application you will have an opportunity to check off and provide a brief explanation of specific criteria your idea addresses.)

The management plans of the National Estuary Programs (NEP), National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS), and National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) share many of the same priorities as the WCGA and CMSP planning. These include clean coastal waters and beaches, the protection and restoration of ocean and coastal habitats, increase of ocean awareness and literacy and the expansion of ocean and coastal scientific information, research and monitoring. Less uniformly amongst this group are programs or initiatives to address offshore energy development, climate change and sustainable economic development of our coastal communities. Over the past several years many of these organizations have developed significant expertise in ecosystem based management. Certainly the information and deliverables derived of the management plans of the NEPs, NERRSs, and NMSs would be informative to the efforts of the Action Coordination Teams outlined in the WCGA. Furthermore the coordination of these organizations would provide valuable assistance in the form of "lessons learned" from smaller spatial efforts to address many of the issues outlined in the region-wide scope of the WCGA and concordant CMSP. The spatial structure and missions of NEPs, NERRSs, and NMSs as currently defined forms a chain of areas from the Puget Sound to the Tijuana River. The scope of the

geographies and constituency ascribed by the management plans of these organizations captures a broad cross section of the West Coast, that includes our major population centers, remote ecological reserves and integrates the watersheds and ports that support the majority of economic activity along our coastline. Funding provided to this group with the purpose to facilitate CMSP along this coastline will greatly enhance the success of this effort.

5. 8. Provide up to 5 ways you will measure success.

Success will be measured by: 1) completion of an audit of the management plans of the NEPs and NERRSs along the west coast. (NEPs Puget Sound, Lower Columbia River, Tillamook Estuaries, San Francisco Estuary, Morro Bay and Santa Monica Bay) (NERRSs Padilla Bay, South Slough, San Francisco Bay, Elkhorn Slough and Tijuana River) 2) completion of an analysis of the standing resources and direction of these entities relating to the WCGA and CMSP of the West Coast. 3) determine needs of these organizations to support CMSP throughout the region 4) assess inclusion of west coast NMSs i.e., Olympic Coast, Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay, Channel Islands. 5) seek support for the coordination of these entities to consistently support CMSP efforts region wide

1. 9. Problem to be addressed.

Currently there are six National Estuary Programs, five National Estuarine Research Reserves and five National Marine Sanctuaries along the west coast. Each of these individual organizations are involved in parallel actions; implementing and planning for similar management objectives. Coordination of these efforts would improve the success of region wide efforts such as the WCGA and CMSP efforts for the west coast

2. 10. Identified needs and the status of ongoing efforts to address them.

There are currently few vehicles for the NEPs, NERRSs, and NMSs to coordinate their programs in relation to region wide efforts (west coast). One purpose of this proposal is to provide the support to analyze common resources and capitalize on the infrastructure and expertise of these programs to support CMSP along the west coast. The needs and status of this region wide coordination effort will be realized through the implementation of this proposal.

3. 11. How does your idea relate to other ongoing or planned regional ocean governance efforts?

The management plans of the National Estuary Programs, National Estuarine Reserve Research System and National Marine Sanctuaries often define within their respective geographies ongoing and planned regional ocean governance. In addition the staff of these entities are engaged in state and federally sponsored efforts to inform planning efforts housed within the Action Coordination Teams established by the WCGA Action Plan, the findings of the Ocean Policy Task Force and numerous related efforts by agencies or through regulation; e.g., Pacific Fisheries Management Council, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Coast Guard, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Harbor Safety Committee Members, California Coastal Commission, Clean Water Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, California Marine Life Management Act, California Sediment Management Workgroup, etc...

1. 12. Please list the partners that will help implement your idea (e.g., entities that have specific roles and responsibilities to realize your idea):

- #1 - six west coast National Estuary Programs; Puget Sound, Lower Colombia River, Tillamook Estuaries, San Francisco Estuary, Morro Bay and Santa Monica Bay
- #2 - five west coast National Estuarine Research Reserves; Padilla Bay, South Slough, San Francisco, Elkhorn Slough and Tijuana River
- #3 - five west coast National Marine Sanctuaries; Olympic Coast, Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay and Channel Islands

1. 13. Please identify who would use the results of this idea and how they would use the results.

The intention of this proposal is to coordinate the information and resources of the National Estuary Programs, National Estuarine Research Reserves and National Marine Sanctuaries along the west coast to directly support the WCGA Action Plan and CMSP priorities. It is intended that the information and abilities generated by this proposal will enable the decisionmakers involved to best inform themselves in the ongoing uses, status, threats and potentials of Washington, Oregon and California's coastal ocean and estuaries.

1. 14. Anticipated tasks required to implement the idea (list up to 10 tasks).

- #1 - Audit the management plans of the west coast National Estuary Programs, National Estuarine Research Reserves and National Marine Sanctuaries
- #2 - Generate coordination amongst these programs
- #3 - Assess needs of support to enable these programs to participate and inform CMSP efforts region wide
- #4 - Build from the coordination and support generated by this proposal to best inform the WCGA and CMSP efforts

2. 15. Technical steps (including quality assurance) needed to accomplish the tasks (list up to 10 steps).

- #1 - To Be Determined

3. 16. Roles of partners (including federal partners).

Partners will need to provide their management plans for review. Furthermore partners will need to devote time and resources and clarify their management plans in a timely manner as questions arise. Additionally partners will need to communicate and participate in determination of resources needed to further their efforts in regards to informing CMSP efforts that are consistent with their existing management plans. Lastly partners will need to contribute to efforts to secure resources for the acquisition of support. Thus promoting the coordination and development of information and programs consistent with WCGA goals and CMSP efforts.

4. 17. Potential obstacles to achieving the goals and objectives.

Potential partners may find that their participation in regional ocean governance planning may conflict with their ongoing program efforts. Some partners may also find it difficult to expend the time and resources required to coordinate

effectively.

5. 18. How end users would participate in the planning and design of a project to carry out this idea.

End users would participate in this project by stating specific interests or needs of data, information or processes that could be provided by the partners of this proposal. Further defining formats, criteria or other matrixes would be helpful in directing this proposal to generate information and programmatic elements that would be of best support of the end users purposes.

6. 19. Anticipated data management needs and the steps to achieve appropriate data access and archiving.

The partners of this proposal have databases and other information archived in various formats. Efforts would have to be made to determine complimentary format for delivering data. These data would then require further management and analysis to provide the appropriate confidence in the information derived from these related yet distinct efforts.

7. 20. Methods to ensure meaningful participation by all partners and appropriate stakeholders.

The nature of this proposal is intended in its early phases to require little of the project partners. The commitment of resources by individual partners is minimized which assures meaningful participation by eliminating the logistical challenges of commitment of significant staff time and organizational resources. At the midpoint in the work plan the proposal will have achieved much of its intended purpose without commitment of resources from the respective partners. At that time those partners that wish to contribute to further efforts will still be able to rely on support from this proposal to seek funding and other support to fulfill a greater suite of deliverables intended to support the WCGA goals and CMSP efforts on the west coast.

1. 21. Benefits to users.

The users will receive a comprehensive programmatic analysis of the status of marine planning and related efforts by 16 federal programs extending from the Canadian to Mexican border. As the management plans of these 16 programs are consistent with many of the goals of the WCGA and CMSP data needs. The benefits these organizations provide through their individual programs is significant to spatial planning through their geography, constituencies, programs and research. In addition this proposal seeks to find areas of interest to the WCGA and of the NEPs, NERRSs, and NMSs and determine avenues of funding to further the understanding of our coastal ocean through this partnership.

2. 22. Benefits to society as a whole.

The diversity of human interest in the estuaries and coastal ocean of Washington, Oregon and California is tremendous. The importance of these environments to the spiritual, emotional and economic health of millions of Americans is clear. Marine Spatial Planning that incorporates the goals of the West Coast Governor's Agreement and the findings of the Ocean Policy Task Force will advance the understanding, sustainability and resilience of these ecosystems and their associated services. This proposal enables the information and expertise housed within 16 federal partners on the west coast to advance regional CMSP. With the addition of the resources of these 16 partners the success of the Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning Effort is greatly improved

3. 23. Document the valid user requirements guiding the proposed work.

To Be Determined

4. 24. Describe how information or results would be delivered to users.

A report containing summaries of the findings will be made available at each phase of the project. Informational formats will reflect the types and values for the information provided. To the extent possible and appropriate Geographic Information System (GIS) sourced databases will be used to present location specific information that can be queried by users.

1. 25. Timeline of major tasks.

Date/Task - 12 months following award: Report on the audits of 16 federal programs on the west coast, 6 NEPs, 5 NERRSs, 5 NMSs

Date/Task - 18 months following award: Assessment of coordination on key elements determined to advance regional CMSP

Date/Task - 18 months following award: Report on the assessment of coordination and communication with end user to determine further needs

Date/Task - 20 months following award: Formulation of needs to support further support for the 16 federal programs to support regional CMSP

Date/Task - 24 months following award: Proposal to support the collection and presentation of data defined by end users and program partners to be of interest to the advancement of regional CMSP

2. 26. Important intermediate products (provide up to 5 intermediate products).

#1 - Interim reports on progress towards major task 1 at 3 months and 6 months following award

#2 - Interim report on progress towards major task 2 and 3 at 15 months following award

#3 - Samples of data generated from coordinated work supporting major tasks 4 and 5 at 22 months following award

3. 27. Important final products (provide up to 5 final products).

#1 - Final report on progress and recommendation for future work

#2 - Samples of data sets that could be generated by further coordination and support

4. 28. Key outcomes (provide up to 5 key outcomes).

#1 - Increased coordination and support for projects that support CMSP on the west coast

#2 - Understanding of the extant resources and status of 16 federal programs on the west coast

#3 - Ability to quickly and accurately generate data that supports the implementation of CMSP

#4 - Better informed public and stakeholders in regards to the CMSP process through the 16 federal programs constituencies

#5 - Fostering networks for geospatial data collection that will enable management of CMSP design

1. 29. WCGA Priorities

Applicable Not Applicable

Ensure Clean Coastal Waters and Beaches **X**

Protect and Restore Ocean and Coastal Habitats **X**

Promote the Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-Based Management **X**

Reduce Adverse Impacts of Offshore Energy Development **X**

Increase Ocean Awareness and Literacy Among Citizens **X**

Expand Ocean and Coastal Scientific Information, Research, and Monitoring **X**

Foster Sustainable Economic Development in Coastal Communities **X**

Briefly describe how criteria relates to idea (no more than 3 bullets).: The 16 federal programs involved in this effort have as active elements of their management plans the bulleted list from above. It is an accurate characterization to state that these organizations are actively working on these issues.

2. 30. WCGA Regional Criteria

Applicable Not Applicable

Project idea is "region-wide" in scope **X**

Project addresses a regionally specific conservation or socio-economic concern(s), achieved through a collaborative or multi-stakeholder process **X**

Project is ecosystem-based **X**

Project advances CMSP capacity on the West Coast through regional planning processes or by addressing one or more of the 12 guiding principles described in the OPTF CMSP framework

X

Data generated from the project will be regionally relevant and made publicly available **X**

Project outcomes demonstrate utility for either decision-support systems (data portals, e.g.) or west coast decision-makers (resource managers, policy makers, e.g.) **X**

Project engages multiple stakeholders to define problems, incorporate scientific, social, and economic understanding, set goals, and find solutions **X**

Briefly describe how criteria relates to idea (no more than 3 bullets).: To address the second bullet: The 16 programs associated with this proposal have ongoing conservation planning incorporating economic concerns and involving multi-stakeholder processes. This experience enables these programs to inform the users of proposed deliverables of what matters most in their area of interest. The framework for working with the stakeholders and local governments has been established up and down the coast through these organizations. This is a hard value of the NEPs, NERRSs, and NMSs that favors their inclusion in this process.

3. 31. Ocean Planning Task Force Guiding Principles for Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning

Applicable Not Applicable

1. Sustainability **X**

2. Compatibility of uses with ecosystems and among uses

3. Engagement **X**

4. Coordination **X**

5. Clarity **X**

6. Informed by knowledge **X**

7. Precaution

8. Flexibility **X**

9. Evaluation **X**

10. Consistency with laws and policies **X**

Briefly describe how your idea relates to criteria (no more than 3 bullets).: Bullets numbered 3, 4, 6: In regard to these themes the federal programs have worked with these issues through their respective boards, engaged public and state and federal partners. Communication of scientifically sound information in the context of local concerns is another trait of the programs included in this proposal. When their respective geographies are associated with the Ocean Planning Task Force Guiding Principles for CMSP many valued areas of the west coast have been in essence prepared for the planning required to ensure sustainability with the proper consideration to precaution and flexibility.

4. 32. Essential Elements of a Coastal and Marine Spatial Plan

Applicable Non-Applicable

Identify regional objectives **X**

Identify existing efforts that should help shape the plan **X**

Consult scientists and technical and other experts **X**

Analyze data, uses, services, and impacts

Develop and evaluate alternative future spatial management scenarios and tradeoffs

Prepare and release for public comment a draft CMS plan with supporting environmental impact analysis documentation

Create a final CMS plan and submit for National Ocean Council review

Implement, monitor, evaluate, and modify (as needed) the National Ocean Council-certified CMS plan. **X**

Briefly describe how your idea relates to criteria (no more than 3 bullets).: The resources and experience housed within the partners identified in this proposal will foster the consultation of scientists and other technical experts with local expertise. The institutional knowledge of the programs will promote the identification of existing efforts that should help shape the plan; in many cases the management plans for the programs are those very same existing efforts. The comprehensive charge of the management plans of the NEPs support the needs of CMSP directly and inclusively. The ability to monitor and evaluate the conditions and responses to CMSP is supported throughout the region by the actions derived of and supported by the management plans of the 16 federal programs in Washington, Oregon and California.

5. 33. Areas of Special Emphasis

Applicable Not Applicable

Resiliency and adaptation to climate change and ocean acidification **X**

Regional ecosystem protection and restoration **X**

Water quality and sustainable practices on land **X**

Ocean and coastal observations, mapping, and infrastructure **X**

Briefly describe how criteria relates to idea (no more than 3 bullets).: The issues of concern listed above in the first 3 bullets are shared by the stakeholders and constituencies represented on the boards and committees of the 16 federal partner programs. The management plans of these programs have well articulated and detailed approaches to these issues along or within their respective coastlines, estuaries and watersheds.

6. 34. Demonstrated Regional Linkages and Partnerships Is the idea or sponsor consistent with one or more of the following?

Yes No

Represents or directly partners with the WCGA

Possesses the authority, capacity, and regional relationships to coordinate regional ocean governance priorities **X**

Demonstrates formal commitments with the WCGA and coastal states or territories to adopt the plan(s), product(s), or outcome(s) of a proposed project into regional or state ocean management planning processes or coastal and ocean resource management policies.

Briefly describe how criteria relates to idea (no more than 3 bullets).: The programs associated with this proposal are mandated by federal regulation and receive federal support. In general these programs are mandated to protect, restore, preserve and promote the use and sustainability of the natural resources and ecosystems within their boundaries. The long-term stability associated with these programs engenders commitment and support from their respective communities and their contacts with other agencies and programs within their spheres of influence will greatly enable coordination of regional governance priorities.